
MUMBAI MONDAYS

A Discussion on The American Musical and the Film “West Side Story” led by Daniel Cisek

Monday, March 17

American Center Auditorium

6:00 p.m.

The program will briefly review the history of the American musical, and then look at the film *West Side Story* (1961) as one of the highest achievements in the genre. We will view excerpts of the film and discuss the musical score, choreography, and plot. *West Side Story* is a modern retelling of *Romeo and Juliet* that is widely recognized for the brilliance of its musical score, the emotional power of its story, and its groundbreaking exploration of contentious social issues such as racial prejudice, immigration, teenage delinquency, and urban violence.

Daniel Cisek is from Chicago and has a Bachelor’s degree in History and Political Science from Northwestern University and a Master’s degree in International Relations and Russian Politics from Indiana University. Mumbai is his first diplomatic assignment as a Foreign Service Officer. He has traveled to Europe, China, and Taiwan, and has lived in Germany and Russia. Daniel speaks Russian and has studied Chinese. He is a film, theater, and music enthusiast and has a particular interest in American musical theater and movie musicals.

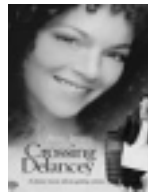
FILMS THIS MONTH

Friday, March 14
Tuesday, March 25
Friday, March 28

Crossing Delancey (1988, color, 97 mins)
Absence of Malice (1981, color, 117 mins)
Norma Rae (1979, color, 114 mins)

American Center Auditorium

3:30 and 6:30 p.m.



A winning and heartfelt romantic comedy, with Amy Irving as a young Jewish New Yorker trying to improve her social status and meet Mr. Right, but fixed up by her grandmother and a matchmaker with likable pickle salesman Peter Riegert. Jeroen Krabbe, Reizl Bozyk and Sylvia Miles also star.

This powerful drama questions the power of the contemporary press. A businessman unknowingly becomes the subject of a criminal investigation thanks to a story written by a feisty reporter. Fine acting by Paul Newman, Sally Field and Melinda Dillon.



Sally Field copped a Best Actress Oscar for her performance as a Southern textile worker who joins with a labor organizer to unionize her mill. Ron Leibman and Beau Bridges add able support to this heartfelt drama. Martin Ritt directs.

VIOLIN CONCERT

by

Michael Braudy and Sunita Bhuyan



Tuesday, March 11
American Center Auditorium

6:00 p.m.



Michael Braudy is a Western classical violinist who also plays Indian classical violin – often playing concerts with both. He is also a versatile improviser, who collaborates with poets and storytellers, theater, dance and mimes. He has performed regularly in the United States and India, including a concert at the American Center in Kolkata in 2001, where he played Western classical music, Indian ragas and Celtic music. He studied Indian music with the late Pandit V. G. Jog.

Sunita Bhuyan is a Hindustani violinist who has carved a niche for herself as an upcoming Indian musician. She received her initial training from her mother, eminent violinist and disciple of Pandit V. G. Jog, Minoti Khaund. She received her Master’s degree in Hindustani Music from Prayag Sangeet Samitte, and has also studied advanced music under the apprenticeship of Pandit V. G. Jog. She has performed extensively in India and abroad.

The program will include a Bach solo by Braudy, a raga by Bhuyan, and a jugalbandi with both artists.

Admission will be on a first-come, first-served basis
